

the Honourable Visitours appointed by both  
houses of Parliament for the regulating and reforming  
of the Vniversity of Oxford.

Petition of your Freinds and Servants in the said Vniversity.

Sheweth,

That divers learned and civill men have been much importuned,  
and some of them seduced (under pretence of maintaining the  
old Prelacy and Liturgy) to enter into a kinde of Confederacy  
Doctor Fell, and his Delegates, to oppose all Reformers, both the  
Parliament, and Visitours, and hinder a just and necessary Reforma-  
tion. We doe not deny that some of us are exercised with doubts, but  
desire to communicate our speciall scruples to you in an humble and  
modest way; We will not conspire together to excuse the errours, and  
weaknes of other men, who are as yet (to the great dishonour and pre-  
judice of our Common-Mother the Vniversity) of the same body with us.  
We consider that to oppose you our much honour'd Visitours, is to re-  
bel against the Houses: to maintaine Prelacy is to uphold Tyranny:  
to contend for the Common-Prayer-Booke is to contend for a false  
translation of the Canonickall Scriptures, to magnifie those bookes that  
are not Canonickall, and justifie the Court of Rome, not onely in admit-  
ting dangerous Ceremonies to corrupt the purity, but in submitting to  
the Roman Order, which would overthrow the piety of our Common  
and publique service,

We are bold therefore to remonstrate that whatever is propounded  
and delivered by the pretended Delegates aforesaid, as the sence of  
the whole Vniversity contrary to this Petition, is contrary both to our  
conscience and consciences; And our humble request is, that you judge not  
of this Vniversity by the rage and confederacy of some Malignants in  
it, who would endanger the whole body to save themselves, and have  
therefore conspired to set up this Delegacy to seduce and corrupt the un-  
settled, to oppose the Visitation, and hinder the Reformation of this  
place. Be pleased to command every man to plead his owne cause, and  
speake for himselfe, onely punish the Heads and Ringleaders of this  
Rebellious conspiracy, and pardon all seduced Schollers, who upon bet-  
ter information, and more mature deliberation, shew that they have er-  
red out of meere simplicity, and doe not hate to be reformed.

June 2. 1647.

And we shall pray, &c.

The Protestation of the *Well-affected* against the  
*Dis-affected* Delegacy.

**V**V Ee the Masters, Schollers, and other Officers of the  
Univerſitie of *Oxford* (underſtanding that there is a De  
gacy ſet up here in *Oxford* without any Right author  
for the upholding of the old English Prelacy and Liturgy in o  
poſition to the Parliament) doe by theſe preſents ſolemnly pr  
teſt againſt the ſaid Delegacy and their pretended Vice-Cha  
cellour Doctor *Fell*, becauſe he is neither deputed by our lawfu  
Chancellour the Earle of *Pembroke*, nor elected by this Univer  
ſity for to governe it for this yeare, and therefore is no way a  
thorized to call or hold a Convocation as Vice-Chancellour  
*Oxford*. And the Delegacy choſen by the Aſſembly of Doct  
and Maſters upon the firſt of Iune laſt, is not to be reputed a ſt  
ruable Delegacy, they being not orderly called or legally enable  
to plead as Delegates in the behalfe of the whole Univerſity:  
witneſſe whereof we ſubſcribe our names this third day  
Iune, 1647.

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MARCH 31. 1648.

*At the Committee of the Lords and Commons for the  
Reformation of the Univerſity of Oxford.*

Ordered,

**T**Hat for an Effectuall Remedy none of thoſe that have beene  
ſhall be convicted to have denied or reſiſted the Power and Au  
thority of Parliament in the Viſitation of the Univerſity of *Ox  
ford*, ſhall be admitted to vote, or to give voice in the Convocation  
Congregation of that Univerſity.

Francis Rou